

A great quantity of drift wood was seen, and one tree, 68 feet long, picked up. After sighting the pack edge frequently, and occasionally entering the bights, so as to obtain an extended view to the northward, the Pelly Islands were seen upon the 20th, and two islets discovered to the E.N.E. of them.

August and September  
1851.

Sight the Pelly Isles.

A favourable wind deterred me from communicating with the shore at Cape Bathurst; casks, however, and cylinders containing information of our progress, were thrown overboard daily.

On the afternoon of the 26th of August Cape Parry was in sight, and during the first watch a bold steep bluff (Cape Erebus) was discovered to the northward. Hauling up to close this land, we entered a strait on the 28th, in which on the following day two islets (with a beacon on the largest) were seen. On landing, I found a whale boat and depôt of provisions, with a notice from Commander M'Clure (a copy of which is enclosed). Continuing our course through the strait, we reached the north end at midnight on the 30th, when another beacon was seen on the south shore, where similar information to that deposited on the Princess Royal Isles was found.

Discover Baring  
Land.

Enter the Prince of  
Wales Strait.  
Princess Royal Isles.

Reach the north end  
of the Strait.

Here in latitude  $73^{\circ} 30' N.$  and longitude  $114^{\circ} 35' W.$  our progress was barred by large fields of ice, leaving no coast water in which a ship could navigate either to the eastward or westward. I then returned to the north shore, with a view of anchoring in a small cove we had seen, and obtaining a more extensive view from the land. This, however, we found, had filled with ice since the previous day, which was now rapidly streaming in on both shores. After looking in vain for a sheltered spot, until we were too close to the Investigator's depôt, I determined to avail myself of the remainder of the season in searching for a wintering place on the west face of Baring's Land.

Stopped by the ice.

Return to Cape  
Erebus.

Rounding Cape Erebus with this intent on September 3d, we found the coast trend to the north, with deep water close to the shore. After examining an inlet, which proved too shallow for our purpose, we reached a long low point in  $71^{\circ} 53' N.$  and  $125^{\circ} 10' W.$ , on which a cask containing information from the Investigator, dated August 18th, 1851, was found. Then proceeding to the north we found shallow water, having only five fathoms six miles from the shore. On the 7th an islet in latitude  $72^{\circ} 54'$  and longitude  $125^{\circ} 12'$  was fallen in with; the close vicinity of the main pack and number of large floes between it and the shore rendering it nearly impracticable to turn to windward among them, induced me to terminate our progress for the season. I accordingly sent Lieutenant Phayre to deposit information, and a small quantity of provisions (20 days for eight men), and then returned to the point where we had found the Investigator's cask, which I hoped would prove sufficiently sheltered for our winter quarters. On examination, however, it was found too shallow. I had then to return further to the south, and eventually found a well sheltered spot on Prince Albert Land, near to the entrance of Prince of Wales Strait, in  $71^{\circ} 35' N.$  and  $117^{\circ} 39' W.$  Shortly after our arrival, we were visited by a tribe of central Esquimaux, who, from a small axe and a pemmican tin in their possession, were the same people mentioned by Commander M'Clure. They remained in our neighbourhood until the second week in November, but had little to spare; nor did we detect any articles whatsoever about them to indicate their having been in communication with any other white men besides the Investigator's travelling party.

September and Octo-  
ber, 1851.

West coast of Baring  
Land.

Terror Islet.

Winter quarters.

Natives.

Before we were finally frozen in, which did not take place until the 21st of October, boats were detached to the north and south of our position to erect marks, so as to guide any parties to the ship. In the latter direction a sound 60 miles deep was discovered; the narrowest part of the isthmus between us and it proving only four miles across, we obtained a considerable supply of wood from thence. A notice deposited by the Investigator's travelling party was found on the south point (Cape Wollaston) of this sound.

During the winter, which proved mild, a few hares and ptarmigans were obtained, and early in April depôts of provisions for the travelling parties were laid out. On the 12th the Southern expedition (under the command of Lieut. Jago) left to explore the coast towards Wollaston Land, which was found to maintain a southerly direction until latitude  $70^{\circ} 38'$  when it assumed an easterly trend. He eventually reached latitude  $70^{\circ} 38'$ , and longitude  $112^{\circ} 48'$  (previous to which, on an islet, in latitude  $70^{\circ} 32'$  and long.  $115^{\circ} 25'$ , a cylinder deposited by the Investigator's travelling party was found), where a party of Esquimaux, about 80 in number, were met with: they proved not to be the same that

Spring of 1852.

Expedition towards  
Wollaston Land.